Whiting or Sater - Int. 2879





DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to PM's TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949

FWS PUBLISHES ABSTRACT OF 1949-50 FUR LAWS

An abstract of laws and regulations pertaining to the trapping or hunting of fur animals in the various States. Alaska and British North America for the 1949-50 fur season has just been published by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Together with information of open seasons, license requirements, and other material pertinent to fur trappers is an editorial comment by Frank G. Ashbrook, in charge of wild fur-animal investigations, to the effect that while "the outlook for the trappers this season is a trifle brighter than it has been for two or three seasons, it is still not sufficiently encouraging to create a rush for trapping licenses and traps."

Prices paid to trappers last season for their furs were so low, says Ashbrook that many gave up trapping after two or three weeks. There was no market whatsoever for some of the furs harvested. Storage houses are bulging with quantities of "not wanted" furs such as raccoon, opossum, skunk, fox and coyote. "Wanted furs," like muskrat, mink, squirrel, marmot, and Persian lamb, have advanced 10 to 15 percent from former seasons, he explains, but the U. S. fur trade is still far from healthy.

The abstract, Wildlife Leaflet 326, may be obtained free from the Division of Information, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

 $x \times x$